

Southeastern Community College and the continuing commercialization of US 701 Hwy.

The next step in the process, scheduling of the first public forum, was announced. This informal gathering will inform the general public of the purpose of the thoroughfare study and solicit their comments.

#### 4) October 25, 1994 --- Public Forum

The two major purposes of this forum were to inform the public about the basic concepts of thoroughfare planning, and to solicit their opinions of the area's traffic needs. Comments are listed below.

1. The turnout was small, and most were city/town officials. There was coverage by Mitch Kokai, News Director of WENC radio and Leslie High, reporter for the News Reporter.
2. The primary current traffic problem is the intersection of US 701 Byp. & US 701 Bus. & NC 130 & the shopping center egress. A lack of positive guidance and signalization have resulted in a large number of accidents, including fatalities.
3. A sight distance problem exists on the US 701 Byp. bridge south of Virgil St. Northbound vehicles approaching signalized intersection cannot see stopped vehicles until they crest the bridge, which is dangerously close to the intersection. Presently, there are no guardrails on bridge approach.
4. The intersection of US 701 Bus. & SR 1916 & SR 1953 is congested and confuses drivers. Location needs phasing and/or geometric improvements.
5. High accident location at intersection of US 701 Byp. & US 74/76 Bus.
6. Traffic signal possibly warranted at intersection of NC 130 & SR 1170.
7. Left turn lanes are needed on US 701 Bus.
8. Driver confusion exists on US 74/76 Byp. west of area where highway tapers from four-lane divided section to two-lane section.
9. The extension of SR 1953 to SR 1920 was mentioned.
10. Thompson St. may be a collector from Lewis St. to US 74/76 Bus.
11. A golf course may be built off of NC 130 south of Brunswick.
12. The frequency of litter pick up along US 74/76 is not sufficient.